

## FIGHT TO PINCH AUTO CROOK.

FROM PARIS TO RIVERSIDE DRIVE  
THIS STORY RUNS.

Big Strenuous of the Rogues' Gallery Does the Grand Tour in Motor Car and Picks Up a New Yorker Abroad—Stunts Disguised as Painters Pick Him Up.

An acquaintance between automobile-bills that began outside Paris last April ended yesterday in a rough and tumble fight in the Gainsborough Apartments, at 112 Riverside Drive, where Dr. John A. Harris lives. Dr. Harris did not take an active part in the scrap in his apartment yesterday afternoon, but Detective Reardon and Platt of the District Attorney's office did. After an extremely lively scrap they landed two stalwart prisoners in Police Headquarters last night charged with grand larceny and attempted grand larceny. The West Sixty-eighth street police thought they recognized in one of the prisoners Doc Owen, the ex-pirate of the Atlantic smoking rooms, but the Headquarters police said no.

The prisoners were booked as George Snyder, a salesman, 33 years old, of 110 West 134th street, and George Thompson, a broker, 32 years old, of 18 West 124th street. Snyder's correct name is said to be James Strenuous, and Thompson is known to use the name of McKee. The police think he is a card sharp, and they say Strenuous is rapidly building up an international reputation as a confidence man.

Strenuous, it is alleged, succeeded in getting \$12,500 in real money from Dr. Harris on what are believed to be slightly insecure securities. Champe S. Andrews, counsel for Dr. Harris, says the securities were certificates of stock in a bona fide company, but the certificates were forged.

Dr. Harris and his wife, Mrs. Harris, came home in a hurry, and when they found their car broken down in this automobile were Strenuous, his wife and child. Seeing they were Americans in distress, Dr. Harris offered to do what he could toward repairing the broken machine. Strenuous introduced himself as a capitalist from Pittsburgh.

His wife repaired and the Strenuous got into Paris safely. Dr. Harris parted with them before they reached Paris, but at the parting Strenuous insisted on knowing where his obliging countryman was going to put up.

Two days later Strenuous and his wife called on Dr. and Mrs. Harris at their hotel, and Strenuous and Dr. Harris became very friendly. Strenuous told Dr. Harris that he not only had made a lot of money himself, but that he had inherited a great deal. He said he had a couple of hundred thousand dollars lying idle, and that when he came back to this country he would look up Dr. Harris and they would go into some business deal together.

Strenuous was an affable man and his wife was charming. After Dr. Harris and his wife left Paris to continue their automobile tour they met the Strenuouses several times, once in Germany.

Dr. Harris got back last March, and two weeks after his return Strenuous looked him up and they played ten cent limit pool games at the Harris flat. About March 15 Strenuous called on Dr. Harris, and he had to have \$12,500 in a hurry, and he asked Dr. Harris to lend him that amount. The doctor lent it, and got the security that his counsel says he has good reason to believe is worthless.

Two weeks or so after getting this first Pan-Strenuous was back asking for a loan of \$7,500, for which he was willing to put up money security of the same brand. Dr. Harris did not give him the second loan, but put him off with some excuse, telling him to return later. Meantime Harris went to consult his lawyer. In telling what he had done Lawyer Andrews said last night: "I had Strenuous looked up in Pittsburgh, and I found he had a bad record. He began his criminal career there by robbing a Chinese laundry, and then became a promoter of fake races. The police finally drove him out of town. Then he turned card sharp and swindler. On June 20, 1907, he was indicted on three charges of larceny in Washington, D. C. Sentence on two of the charges was suspended, and on the third he got five years. After serving a short time he was pardoned by the President McKinley."

His wife pleaded with the late president until she convinced him that her husband was a much abused man. I learned that the New York police knew a little about Strenuous and that his face adorned the rogues' gallery. It took some time to learn all this, and meanwhile my client was holding him off on the second loan he wanted."

When Lawyer Andrews was satisfied about Strenuous, he told his client to send him the \$7,500. Strenuous said he really wanted \$15,000, but that he could borrow \$7,500 from another friend. Harris was instructed to tell him that when he could show the \$7,500 his other friend had loaned him Harris would produce \$7,500. It was arranged that Strenuous should come after the money yesterday afternoon.

It happens that Dr. Harris is moving from the 6th to the 7th floor of the Gainsborough and his apartment was in the 6th. It did not look amiss to have a couple of painters at work there yesterday when Strenuous called. He brought with him to introduce to Dr. Harris his old friend Mr. McKee, who had loaned him \$7,500. Strenuous brought forth that cash and showed it. The two painters began to show some interest in the proceedings, and Lawyer Andrews, who was concerned in another room, yelled to the painters to arrest Strenuous and his friend McKee.

The painters were Reardon and Platt. Both are husky young men and they jumped at their prisoners, both of whom are stalwart fellows. Strenuous tried to get to the door leading into the hall. Reardon pressed on him while Platt tackled McKee.

They rolled all over the room, and some one telephoned Police Headquarters for help in a hurry. The message was transmitted to the West Sixty-eighth street station, and four policemen were sent over to the Gainsborough on the run.

The tenants who went on in the hall to "rubber" were much interested to find a struggle between men making threats to shoot one another. Finally out of the bunch one man got free. He darted down the steps as fast as he could jump. After him went another man.

The first was Strenuous and the next was Reardon. The sleuth caught up with his quarry at the main entrance and banged

## EUROPE TO CURB THE KAISER.

## PLANS MAKING TO CHECK HIS VAULTING AMBITION.

Incoming Regime in Russia Anxious to Unite With France and England—New Anglo-Jap Treaty Made—Britain to Keep Fighting Strength Near Home.

LONDON, June 29.—It was now possible to outline some of the far reaching effects of Germany's sensational diplomatic attacks on France and the Kaiser's other attempts to take advantage of Russia's impotence in Europe. It has been indicated already in these despatches that the sharp check put upon German aggression was due chiefly to British initiative. The prompt and substantial success which has already attended the English efforts in this direction constitutes one of the most remarkable accomplishments of modern diplomacy.

The German-French crisis is by no means settled, but the German attitude has already changed from provocative aggression to moderate conciliation. Fresh retaliation may yet come from Berlin, but it is the present view in diplomatic circles outside of Germany that the Kaiser has overreached himself, that he has alarmed the nations and aroused the greater part of the world against him to little purpose. Never was the machinery of European diplomacy so active as now, and the sole object of international endeavor seems to be to devise an effective plan to restrain the vaulting ambition of the German Emperor.

Certain important developments may be specified:

First—The terms of an extended Anglo-Japanese treaty have been definitely agreed upon. An announcement of their nature may be expected shortly.

Second—Because the Emperor, only upon Japan to cancel all future Russian ambitions in the Far East, Great Britain feels less unwilling to allow Russia to seek certain expansion in the Near East with the object of holding back the Kaiser.

Third—Great Britain is taking the most active measures to concentrate her fighting strength very near home.

Fourth—The incoming régime in Russia is full of fear of the Kaiser since he has recently shown his hand and is anxious to unite with France and England to check German aggression.

Fifth—Plans to do this without creating a false impression in Germany that an aggressive anti-German coalition is coming into being are occupying the attention of the diplomats of western Europe and other countries.

In the foregoing outline of history in the making THE SUN'S London correspondent is quoting almost the exact words of a diplomatist who has full knowledge of the inner facts of the great crisis through which the world is passing. It requires some reading between the lines in order to appreciate its stupendous significance.

What, for instance, is the meaning of the phrase "the incoming régime in Russia" and when may its advent be expected? If the amazing drama at Odessa and the signs of military disaffection elsewhere mean anything they signify that Russia's critical hour is close at hand. Will the Romanoff dynasty survive it, or is the present order of things to be swept away?

The writer is not at liberty to suggest answers to these fateful questions. This only he ventures to say: All is not chaos in the plans for saving this stricken nation. There are important factors at work, no hint of whose existence has reached the outside world. Peace with Japan, when it comes, will not be signed by the present Russian Government, or rather, it will be ratified by direct representatives of the Russian people.

It would not be wise to discuss the details of any of the plans under consideration for safeguarding the peace of Europe during the perilous days which will witness the regeneration of Russia and the settlement of the Far Eastern problem.

Emperor William has done the world a service in demonstrating how imminent and how grave of these days of the danger. He made a serious mistake from his own point of view in assuming that the English hatred of war at the present moment would make Great Britain pusillanimous if he attacked her indirectly through France.

It is scarcely a paradox to say that England's love of peace to-day is so strong that she is willing to make war against war. She has completely abandoned her traditional policy of isolation, as she believes the United States should do also, solely in the interests of peace. She has frankly communicated these views to President Roosevelt.

To-day's papers print the President's message to the Kaiser. It may seem curious to the American public that European diplomacy and the Continental press treat this telegram, coming at the present moment, as of great political significance, even interpreting it as a rebuff to Prime Minister Balfour for suggesting at the Pilgrims' Club dinner that America should assume her responsibilities in the family of nations.

Public telegrams from heads of States in times of crisis are regarded in Europe as direct intimations of public policy. President Roosevelt's doctrine has not the slightest aid of suggesting that American opinion or public opinion is on the side of Germany and against England in the present crisis, but such an interpretation will inevitably be placed upon his despatch in other European capitals as well as Berlin.

THE PEACE NEGOTIATORS.

The President May Be Able to Announce Their Names by Monday.

OYSTER BAY, L. I., June 29.—By Monday it is expected here President Roosevelt will be able to announce the names of the Russo-Japan peace negotiators.

The President is in full communication with the State Department office at Washington. The report that he would go to Washington to meet the envoys when they arrive in this country has been contradicted here. It is thought more likely still that the envoys will come to Oyster Bay to pay their respects to the President.

TO FIGHT FIRES ON THE FOURTH.

Chief Croker Orders Double Companies to Town and Suspends Holidays.

Chief Croker issued yesterday his special order for July 4. It provides for a general transferring of engines from the double to the single companies in the business districts downtown to the stations of single companies in the residential and suburban districts, especially on the upper West Side. For the day only these single companies will be double companies.

Inasmuch as July 4 is a holiday and there is no particular use of fireworks in the business section of the city, Chief Croker believes that single companies downtown will be able to protect the territory.

All days off and vacations have been suspended between July 4 at 8 A. M. and July 5 at 5 A. M.

20TH CENTURY—18 HOURS—CHICAGO.

The 20th Century Limited of the New York Central Lines leaves New York at 8:30 P. M. to-day, Chicago 8:30 next morning. Returning, leaves Chicago via Lake Shore 2:30 P. M. due New York 8:30 next morning. To secure best accommodations, reservations should be made early.—Ad.

Fourth of July Special Train Returning from Atlantic City.

Via Pennsylvania Railroad, Leave Atlantic City July 4 5:30 P. M. for New York, stopping at Trenton, New Brunswick, Elizabeth and Newark. For tor and Dining Cars.—Ad.

## RUSH TO REMORTGAGE.

## And Avoid the New Mortgage Tax—Two Ten Million Samples.

Register Renner, upon whom is imposed the collection of the revenue from the mortgage tax law which goes into effect to-morrow, said yesterday that he was at his wits' end to know how he was going to do the work put upon him by the new bill because of the refusal of the State Board of Tax Commissioners to provide him with the extra help he needed. They allowed him only six new men, which he says is an imposition on his office, and he wonders if they have any idea at Albany how large a town this is.

From the opening of the office until closing there was a long stream of persons anxious to evade the payment of the new tax by recording mortgages. The corporate and individual lenders of money are advising borrowers whose mortgages expire soon and who wish to renew them to make such renewals before Saturday.

More than a thousand mortgages were recorded yesterday and to-day Mr. Renner expects to keep his office open after hours. Two of the renewal mortgages filed yesterday amounted to more than \$10,000 each, and these were only samples of many large mortgages which, having only a little time to run, were canceled and then renewed.

FIVE HURT IN EXPLOSION.

Painter Lights a Cigarette and Throws the Match Behind Him.

A painter who had been working on a new flat building at 327 Snedeker avenue, East New York, lit a cigarette about 6 o'clock last night and threw the match away without noticing where it fell. He knew a second later. It landed in a paint bucket full of benzine.

The explosion threw one man through a window and into the street. Burning oil flew over the clothes of the others and they rushed into the street with their clothes ablaze. Before people could get to them and tear the burning clothes off several were frightfully hurt. The injured are:

Louis Landsberg of 54 Riverside avenue who is in St. Mary's Hospital. He will die.

Joseph Adelman, 198 Watkins street, burned about the face and body. In the Bradford street hospital, fatally hurt.

David Rozisk, 40 Watkins street, burned about face and upper part of body. In the Bradford street hospital, fatally hurt.

Harry of 281 Atlantic avenue, Brooklyn, burned about face, hands and body. In the Bradford street hospital.

Jose Negro (white), 325 Snedeker avenue, cut by flying glass, in the Bradford street hospital.

The first floor and the walls of the building were ripped to pieces by the explosion and the building took fire. The blaze was put out quickly.

A number of children who had been playing in the street were struck by bits of broken glass and several were painfully hurt. They were treated on the spot by doctors from the hospitals. The explosion broke windows for blocks around and caused a panic in the neighborhood. The police reserves were summoned to handle the people who rushed into the street not knowing what had happened.

AMERICAN SHIPS PURCHASED.

Canal Commission Unable to Find the Vessels Required in Foreign Ports.

WASHINGTON, June 29.—After searching through all of the principal shipping ports of Europe for vessels of the type, speed and size required for its purpose, the Isthmian Canal Commission has departed from its announced policy either to purchase or charter foreign built ships for use between the Isthmus and New York, and has purchased outright from the Ward Line the steamers Mexico and Havana at \$650,000 each.

It is less than the original cost of the vessels. The vessels are of 5,500 tons each and capable of sustaining a speed of sixteen knots. Each will accommodate 100 first class and fifty second class passengers. The vessels will be turned over to the Canal Commission immediately and will operate in connection with the Panama Railroad Company. By this arrangement the railroad company may dispose of the two vessels at a profit.

JOHN HAY'S CONDITION.

Secretary of State Sleeps Well and Gains Steadily.

BOSTON, Mass., June 29.—Despatches from Newbury, N. H., say that Secretary Hay, although still confined to his bed at his summer home, The Falls, on the shore of Lake Umbagog, continues to gain steadily. He slept well last night and to-day appeared much refreshed and considerably stronger. The beautiful weather contributed to make the Secretary feel better.

Clarence Hay, the Secretary's son, said that all the members of the family felt greatly encouraged and that his father's condition was much improved to-day.

MARRIED IN A BREATH.

Bride Thought It Would Take Longer. Bridegroom Found No Chance to Ring Her.

William James Deery, actor, of 235 West 142d street, and Miss Margaret May Olivette O'Keefe went to the Mayor yesterday afternoon to be wed.

"Wasn't it awful brief?" said the bride (who is 30) when Col. McClellan had finished his formula.

The bridegroom (who is 23) pursued the disappearing Mayor, holding the ring in his hand.

"What shall I do with this, your Honor?" he demanded.

"If I were you," said the Mayor, "I would put it on the bride's finger."

Later the Mayor married Marius Reynier, who came all the way from Monte Carlo, France, to Martha Gardner, who came all the way from Staten Island. One of the witnesses was René Durie, who keeps a hotel on the island. The other witness was I. Hater. The bridegroom passed his bride among the witnesses and two other Gallic friends to be kissed. I. Hater belied his name.

CASSINI FOREIGN SECRETARY.

Retiring Russian Ambassador to Enter the Czar's Cabinet.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, June 30.—A despatch to the Times from St. Petersburg says it is announced that Count Cassini, the retiring Russian Ambassador at Washington, will become Under Secretary of the Foreign Office.

Latest Marine Intelligence.

Arrived: as Bordeaux, Havre, June 17.

## WARSHIP FIRES INTO ODESSA.

## Mutinous Sailors Begin Shelling Town—Revolt Spreads to Other Vessels.

Thousands Killed and Thousands Wounded Not Considered High Estimate—Crew Seizes Transport, and St. Petersburg Hears That a Battleship and Two Gunboats Are in the Hands of Mutineers—Fear That Troops May Join the Outbreak—The Revolutionary Party Believed to Be at the Bottom of the Revolt—The Czar Calls for Troops—He Is Warned by Zemstvo That Constitutional Government Will Be Declared if Reforms Aren't Granted.

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The Odessa correspondent of the Daily Mail says that Thursday night the Kniaz Potemkin Tavritchsky fired two shells. The first struck a house in Nyosjenakaya street and the second a brewery. Both tore holes six yards by three in the buildings. The firing was not renewed.

The Governor ordered the gas and electricity lights to be extinguished and the city was in total darkness. Large bodies of troops have arrived. It is reported that there are now 10,000 soldiers of all arms in the town.

A tugboat arrived in the afternoon, having on board a commission to investigate the position. She proceeded, flying a Red Cross flag, to the opposite side of the bay, and reported that the two warships were lying opposite the little fountain at the harbor end of one of the main streets.

A SECOND MUTINIOUS WARSHIP.

The Express prints an Odessa despatch saying that a second mutinous warship is reported at Cape Fontaine, ten miles from Odessa.

A transport with Russians returning from Port Arthur and a Russian steamer were held up by the Kniaz Potemkin Tavritchsky at 5 o'clock in the afternoon, and were compelled to lie under the guns of the battleship for two hours.

At 7 o'clock the battleship steamed two miles off. She returned shortly to her former position and fired several shots at the suburb of Langeron, where there is a detachment of Cossacks. She then swung around until her guns pointed at the center of the city and fired a blank shot.

The steamer above mentioned was seen to burst into flames. The city penitentiary in which there are 2,000 prisoners, narrowly escaped being blown to pieces Wednesday night.

Five men succeeded in laying a number of fuse bombs against the outer wall. They were captured, however. They said they intended to release the prisoners, but if the bombs had exploded a majority of them would have been killed.

A bomb thrown in a street Thursday afternoon killed six persons.

AUTHORITIES LOSE THEIR GRIPE.

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The city is partially aflame. A battle between the ships held by the mutineers, who have been reinforced, and Government ships is awaited.

Banks and commercial houses are being questioned by agitated clients regarding the situation at Odessa. The accepted account of the trouble is offset by a statement that there has been a successful mutiny on three battleships.

Another statement declares that the crews of the battleship Alexander II. (Probably the Ekaterina II., the Alexander II. not being in the Black Sea fleet) and two torpedo gunboats killed their officers during the passage from Sebastopol to Odessa, where the men are actually rioting.

FEAR OF REVOLT ON OTHER SHIPS.

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It is much doubted, however, whether his orders can be carried out. Even the officials here admit that it is questionable if Admiral Kruger's men will fire on their comrades, and discuss the possibility of their joining the mutiny. Should they do so and should an organized force cooperate with the rioters there is every likelihood of a part at least of the troops joining them.

MUTINY SPREADS TO BALTIC.

The mutiny has reached the Baltic. The sailors at the imperial naval barracks at Libau revolted last night on the pretext that the food served to them was not fit to eat.

They secured rifles and ammunition and

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A tugboat arrived in the afternoon, having on board a commission to investigate the position. She proceeded, flying a Red Cross flag, to the opposite side of the bay, and reported that the two warships were lying opposite the little fountain at the harbor end of one of the main streets.

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At 7 o'clock the battleship steamed two miles off. She returned shortly to her former position and fired several shots at the suburb of Langeron, where there is a detachment of Cossacks. She then swung around until her guns pointed at the center of the city and fired a blank shot.

The steamer above mentioned was seen to burst into flames. The city penitentiary in which there are 2,000 prisoners, narrowly escaped being blown to pieces Wednesday night.

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